wherein said power supply units constitute a parallel redundancy structure; and

wherein each of said control units in the plurality of power supply units is connected in parallel to each one of the control power supply units in the plurality of power supply units.

3. (ONCE AMENDED) The power supply device according to claim 2 further comprising a rush current prevention unit being provided in a downstream side of the main power supply unit, the control power supply unit, and an upstream side of the control unit to prevent a rush current from flowing in.

REMARKS

INTRODUCTION:

Claims 1, 4 and 5 have been cancelled. In accordance with the foregoing, no new matter is being presented, and approval and entry are respectfully requested.

Claims 2-3 are pending and under consideration.

DRAWINGS:

In the Office Action, at page 2, the drawings were objected to as set forth in MPEP § 608.02(g). The Examiner stated that FIGs. 5 and 6 should be designated by a legend such as -- Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. In the Letter to the Examiner Requesting Approval of the Changes to the Drawings being filed herewith, a copy of which is attached hereto, Applicant has made the requested designation for FIGs. 5 and 6 as shown in red. Also, for the Examiner's convenience, unmarked corrected FIGs. 5 and 6 are enclosed. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this objection be withdrawn.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112:

In the Office Action at page 2, claims 1-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. The Examiner asserted that, as per claims 1, 4 and 5, the limitation "a control unit informing the outside of the result of monitoring of each section" renders the claims indefinite. The Examiner stated that it is not clear what the Applicant meant by "the outside" and "each section" and further, that there is no antecedent basis for such limitations in the claims.

Claims 1, 4 and 5 have been cancelled. Claim 2 has been amended to merge with claim 1, eliminating the terminology "the outside" and "each section". Claim 3 has been

amended to depend from amended claim 2. Amended claims 2 and 3 are now respectfully submitted to be clear and definite and allowable under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103:

In the Office Action, at page 3, claims 1-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over AAPA in view of Linde (US patent 5,745,670). The reasons for the rejection are set forth in the Office Action and therefore not repeated. The rejection is traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Claims 1, 4 and 5 have been cancelled. Claim 2 has been merged with claim 1 to form independent claim 2, and claim 3 has been amended to depend from amended claim 2. Amended claim 2 teaches the limitation of the control unit being also powered by the control power supply unit of another power supply unit. As admitted by the Examiner, APAA (FIG. 5) fails to teaches the limitations of the control unit being also powered by the control power supply unit of another power supply unit. In addition, the Examiner admits that Linde fails to disclose a converting unit for outputting a received controlling voltage supply to the control unit.

The Examiner submits that he "takes official notice that Linde's control unit inherently comprises a voltage converting unit that receives the voltage from line (24) and supplies a constant controlling voltage supply (DC) to the logic controlling gates (FIG. 3)." However, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner submits no basis for this conclusion. It is respectfully submitted that Linde teaches that a device may draw power from its local power supply as well as share power from its local power supply via a common power distribution bus (col. 2, lines 55-57). Linde teaches that "[A] control element is provided for controlling the switch to provide power to the local device in the event of failure of the local power supply" (lines 17-19, col. 2). In contrast, as noted by the Examiner, the present invention teaches that the control units function independently of the operational condition of the internal supply. Hence, it is respectfully submitted that Linde's control unit does not inherently comprise a voltage converting unit that receives the voltage from line (24) and supplies a constant controlling voltage supply (DC) to the logic controlling gates. Hence, it is respectfully submitted that Linde teaches away from the present invention.

The Examiner also states that it "would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of AAPA with the teachings of Linde such that the control unit is also powered by the control power supply unit of another

power supply unit for the purpose of enabling the control units to function independent of the operational condition of the internal supply." It is respectfully submitted that the courts have held that the Examiner may not suggest modifying references using the present invention as a template absent a suggestion of the desirability of the modification in the prior art (*In re Fitch*, 23 U.S.P.Q.2d 1780, Fed Cir. 1992). Since Linde fails to teach such a control unit and since there is no teaching or suggestion that AAPA and Linde be combined, and even if combined, the combination would fail to teach the present invention, it is respectfully submitted that amended claim 2 is allowable under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over AAPA in view of Linde (US patent 5,745,670). Since amended claim 3 depends from amended claim 2, it is respectfully submitted that amended claim 3 is allowable under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over AAPA in view of Linde (US patent 5,745,670) for the same reasons that amended claim 2 is allowable.

It is respectfully asserted that pending claims 2-3 are patentable in view of the prior art of record.

CONCLUSION:

In accordance with the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all outstanding objections and rejections have been overcome and/or rendered moot, and further, that all pending claims patentably distinguish over the prior art. Thus, there being no further outstanding objections or rejections, the application is submitted as being in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner has any remaining issues to be addressed, it is believed that prosecution can be expedited by the Examiner contacting the undersigned attorney for a telephone interview to discuss resolution of such issues.

If there are any underpayments or overpayments of fees associated with the filing of this Amendment, please charge and/or credit the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: Nov 22, 2002

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VERSION WITH MARKING TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

3. (ONCE AMENDED) [The power supply device according to claim 1 further comprising] A power supply device comprising a plurality of power supply units, each of said power supply units comprising:

a main power supply unit generating a load voltage supply to be supplied to a load;

a control unit monitoring the main power supply unit;

a control power supply unit generating a controlling voltage to control the control unit; and

a converting unit being inserted in [the] an upstream side of the control unit, converting the [inputted] controlling voltage [supply] into a constant controlling voltage supply, and supplying the controlling voltage supply to the control unit;

wherein said power supply units constitute a parallel redundancy structure; and

wherein each of said control units in the plurality of power supply units is connected in parallel to each one of the control power supply units in the plurality of power supply units.

3. (ONCE AMENDED) The power supply device according to claim [1] 2 further comprising a rush current prevention unit being provided in [each] a downstream side of the main power supply unit, the control power supply unit, and an upstream side of the control unit [so as] to prevent a rush current from flowing in.

FIG.5

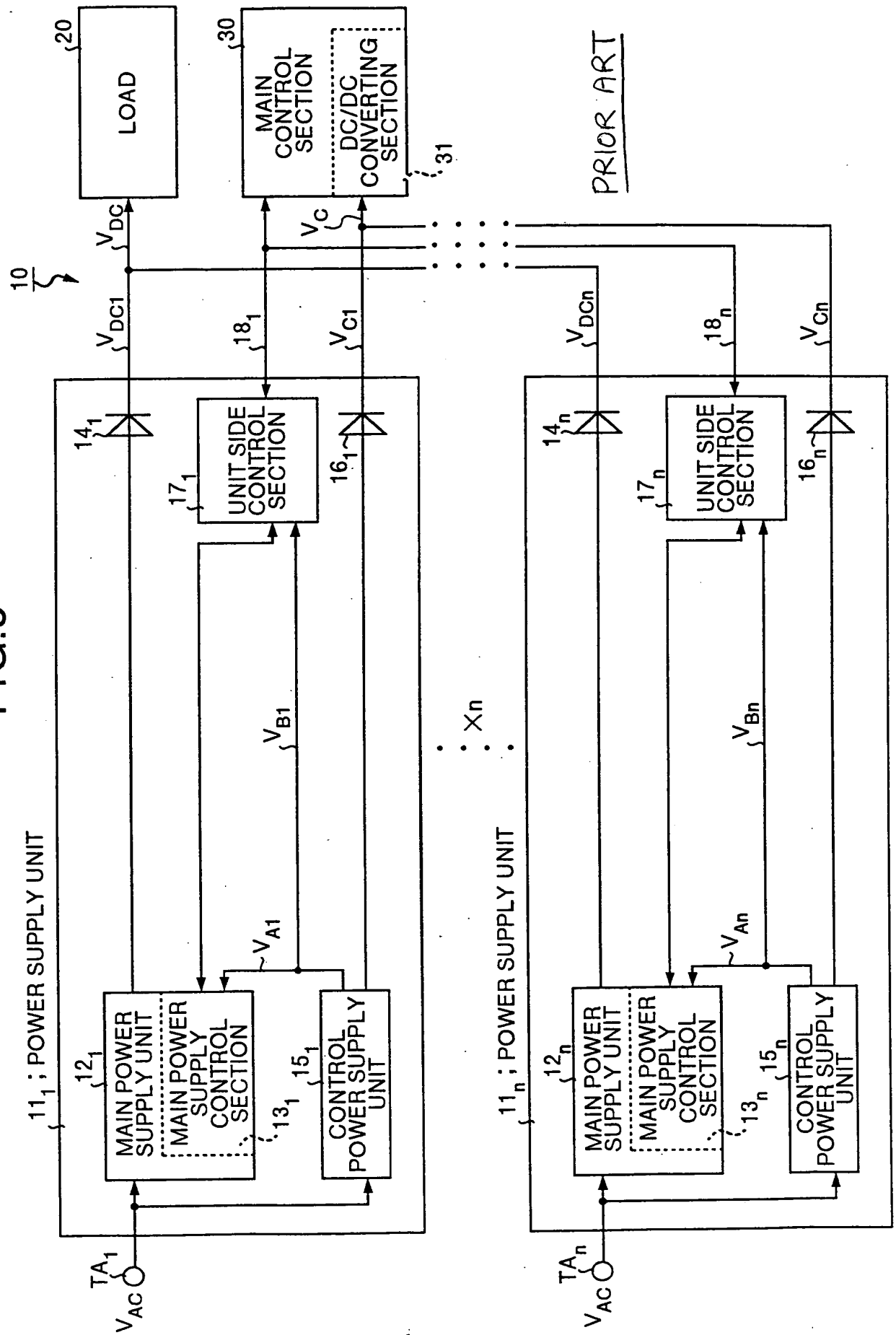

FIG.6